

Aspen Bluebells

Mertensia arizonica



Like Columbine and Southern Ligusticum, Aspen Bluebells usually grows along the forest edges at Cedar Breaks where it receives some protection from strong winds. It also benefits from the snow caught by the trees and the partial shade which keep the soil moister.

There is another similar species found at Cedar Breaks, *Mertensia ciliata*, which differs in minor leaf and flower characteristics.

This species is palatable to both sheep and cattle. It is so common and lush at Cedar Breaks because the meadows have been protected from grazing for many years.